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November 15, 1962

TOP SECRET - EYES ONLY

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. McGeorge Bundy,  
The White House

Following the meeting in my conference room on Tuesday, November 13, I gave instructions that there was to be no debriefing. It was made quite clear at the meeting that nothing was to be said about the contents of the message.

I have not talked to any Washington Post correspondent since Chalmers Roberts called me at my home on Sunday night--prior to the receipt of the message--except for exchanging greetings with Murray Marder at the conclusion of the White House luncheon yesterday. As I recall, Marder asked me how the Cuban affair was progressing and I gave some even noncommittal answer as "It's boiling along." He asked if we would get the IL-28s out, and I said: "We'll see that the agreement is fulfilled." He asked if I were optimistic and I replied that I was always optimistic.

I have interrogated every State Department individual who was present at the Tuesday meeting and I have obtained the enclosed written statements. I have had a careful check made of all incoming and outgoing telegrams to make sure that there was no reporting which might have given a clue.

There has been no ambassadorial briefing this week on Cuba.

Enclosures:  
Stated.

George W. Ball

U:GWB/vh

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